



CELEBRATING

25
YEARS

ANNUAL REVIEW
2012/2013

RESPECTED EDUCATION DIALOGUE
INTEGRITY COMMUNITY VALUES
COOPERATION DISTINCTIVENESS
COMMON GOOD UNDERSTANDING
NEIGHBOURLINESS FAITH ACTION
BELONGING TACKLING PREJUDICE
RESPECTED EDUCATION DIALOGUE
INTEGRITY COMMUNITY VALUES
COOPERATION DISTINCTIVENESS

The Inter Faith Network for the UK

The Inter Faith Network for the UK (IFN) was founded in 1987 to “advance public knowledge and mutual understanding of the teachings, traditions and practices of the different faith communities in Britain, including an awareness both of their distinctive features and of their common ground” and to promote good relations between people of different faiths in this country.

Its role is unique: linking national faith community representative bodies, local, regional and national inter faith bodies, academic and educational bodies concerned with multi faith education and working with them to deepen inter faith understanding and cooperation as part of working for the common good.

It carries out its work through creating opportunities for linking and sharing of good practice, providing advice and information to help the development of new inter faith initiatives and the strengthening of existing ones. It raises awareness within wider society of the importance of inter faith issues and develops programmes to increase understanding about faith communities, including both their distinctive features and areas of common ground.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS



2012–13 was a year where through the cloth of our work at IFN – and of inter faith activity in the UK more widely – between the bright threads of positive engagement and cooperation ran other

threads of extreme voices and actions. It was a year where the shootings in August 2012 of Sikhs at Oak Creek in the USA distressed our communities here and where the horrendous murder of Lee Rigby on the streets of our own country brought a national shock and sadness but, like Oak Creek, renewed commitment to working for greater understanding and to ‘stand together’.

Day to day the ongoing pattern of inter faith engagement has seen increased interest in joint social action. This was a theme in many of our meetings and staff member Paresh Solanki continued, on our behalf, to contribute to the special A Year of Service programme linked to the Diamond Jubilee. Social action was also a theme adopted by a number of groups marking Inter Faith Week 2012, as was sport – unsurprisingly in Britain’s Olympic year! But the Week saw an ever growing spread of themes and projects this year and, like Scottish Interfaith Week, it is becoming an enormously important resource for developing inter faith projects and drawing new people in.

The Working Group on faith based dietary practice and catering, which concluded its work in the course of the year, was a reminder of how important it is that faith communities work together on issues of common concern and find ways to discuss issues on which they may have differing perspectives or where their particular needs may seem hard mutually to accommodate. We believe that the resulting document, described at pages 22–23, is a very significant contribution of this kind.

2012 marked IFN’s 25th Anniversary. Last year’s Review opened the marking of this important milestone and carried a message from Her Majesty The Queen. Within the text of the present Review, we have drawn on some of the other messages received in the course of the Anniversary year.

The most important step which IFN took at the time of the Anniversary was to inaugurate, at its 2012 AGM, a Strategic Review. This is described at page 3–6. The

Strategic Review Working Group (SRWG) began its work in November and ended this in June when it presented the Executive Committee with its Report and Recommendations. The 2013 National Meeting and AGM held in Birmingham in July provided a chance for member bodies to offer preliminary reflections and the Executive Committee is taking forward from its first meeting in the Autumn of 2013 the process of responding and developing a forward strategy. We are extremely grateful to the Chair of the SRWG, Patricia Stoa, and to its members for their tremendous work across seven months and to member bodies and others for their thoughtful and wise reflections and suggestions. There is a need in the course of the coming year for IFN to reach conclusions on ways in which the range of its direct engagement with different religious groups might be taken forward on the basis of a broad consensus.

The work of the SRWG was prepared for and supported throughout the year by a Secretariat drawn from the IFN staff. In addition to the nine meetings of the SRWG they also serviced the normal meetings of IFN and its member categories and we are grateful to them for their dedication and hard work.

We thank IFN’s member bodies and our fellow Trustees for their contribution to its work and we thank faith groups, individual donors, trusts and the Department for Communities and Local Government who are helping, through their financial support, to enable IFN’s work to promote good inter faith relations. Without this assistance this vital work could not continue.

At the 2013 AGM we launched a special Appeal to support the work of the Inter Faith Network and enable it to continue as a vital resource for our lives in this diverse United Kingdom.

An Appeal form is included with each Review this year and donations can also be made online. Early Appeal supporters have included the Most Revd Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, and other leading faith community figures, institutions and trusts linked to a number of faith communities, as well as local inter faith practitioners and other supporters. We thank them and very much hope that you may join them in supporting IFN’s work in this way.

The Revd Bob Fyffe
Co-Chairs, The Inter Faith Network for the UK

Vivian Wineman

Co-Chairs, The Inter Faith Network for the UK

ANNIVERSARY MESSAGES FROM THE PRIME MINISTER, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

In our Annual Review last year we included a message from Her Majesty The Queen. In this year's Review we are delighted to incorporate messages subsequently received from the Prime Minister, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition.

CELEBRATING
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“On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Inter Faith Network of the United Kingdom, it gives me great pleasure to compliment the Network on the central role it has played in creating the conditions for different faith groups to live together in harmony in our country.

The work of the Inter Faith Network has been instrumental in fostering not only dialogue but active cooperation on social projects between people of different faith backgrounds, locally, regionally and nationally. The organisation has helped to break down barriers between faith groups around Britain and deserves the warm thanks of all people of good will.

I would be grateful if you could convey my best wishes to all those who have worked tirelessly to take forward Inter Faith Network's various projects and initiatives, in particular the annual Inter Faith Week which I am pleased to note goes from strength to strength.”

**THE RT HON DAVID CAMERON MP,
PRIME MINISTER**

“The Deputy Prime Minister believes that the Inter Faith Network continues to provide a valuable resource for inter faith dialogue and action throughout the country and congratulates the organisation on achieving this symbolic milestone. He extends his gratitude to everyone who has been involved in making the Inter Faith Network what it is today, for using their skills and experience to foster good relations between the many faith groups that exist in our communities.”

**THE RT HON NICK CLEGG MP, DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER**

**“ The Inter Faith Network
has helped to break
down barriers between
faith groups around
Britain and deserves the
warm thanks of all
people of good will. ”**

“On behalf of the Labour Party, I want to pay tribute to the work you have done over the last twenty-five years to bring people of different faiths together.

At the heart of One Nation Labour is the idea of building a country where we value what we have in common. Wherever we come from, whatever our culture, and whichever faith we profess, we have a responsibility beyond ourselves and our communities to nurture the cohesiveness of the society in which we live.

We know that suspicion, discrimination, and prejudice thrive in societies when societies are atomised and separate. But we also know that the opposite is true, that when people from different communities come together, get to know each other, and share stories and experiences, we begin to do the important work of binding ourselves together as a society and as a nation. For two and a half decades, the Inter Faith Network has been doing that work. May you continue to do so for many decades into the future.”

**THE RT HON ED MILIBAND MP, LEADER OF
THE OPPOSITION**

INTER FAITH NETWORK STRATEGIC REVIEW



Patricia Stoaat, Chair of the Strategic Review Working Group, introducing its Report and Recommendations at the IFN National Meeting

2012–13 saw the first stage of a major strategic review of the work of the Inter Faith Network.

At its 25th Anniversary AGM IFN member bodies agreed to launch a Strategic Review to help IFN continue to develop across the coming years as a vital and valued resource for supporting the development of inter faith understanding and cooperation both locally and nationally in the UK.

Strategic Review Working Group

A Strategic Review Working Group (SRWG) was established by the Executive Committee, as agreed at the AGM, to work independently to produce recommendations. The areas which it was tasked with looking were:

- the place of IFN in the wider context of inter faith engagement and UK society;
- IFN's membership and patterns of engagement and consultation;
- programmes of work undertaken by IFN;
- the place and continued relevance of Inter Faith Week;
- the sustainability of IFN;
- views on the future work of IFN; and
- governance, internal processes and operations of IFN.

The Working Group met nine times between November and June. It was chaired by Patricia Stoaat, who is involved at local level in the inter faith work of her own faith community through the Catholic Diocese of Nottingham; and is Vice-President of the National Board of Catholic Women; and has for a number years played an active role in the Nottingham Council of Faiths. The other members of the Group were: Sughra Ahmed, the

Revd Alan Bayes, Mohinder Singh Chana, the Revd Peter Colwell, Acharya Modgala Duguid, Kathryn Luckcock, Rabbi Maurice Michaels and Ramesh Pattni.

IFN's staff provided the Secretariat for the Working Group. Its duties in arranging and servicing the Review Group's nine meetings, its six consultative sessions and the desk research formed a significant part of the office's work this year.

Membership and sustainability – two key issues

The Working Group decided early on to give particular attention to two of the seven areas which it was asked to examine. The first was IFN's membership and patterns of engagement and consultation. There had for some time been debate around the range of membership of IFN – particularly within the 'national faith community representative bodies' category of membership. The last time that membership policy in relation to this category had been considered formally by IFN member bodies in general meeting was at the 2007 AGM, at which member bodies had affirmed the existing pattern of membership.

The second area prioritised by the Group was the sustainability of IFN, which had gained in urgency in the light of a number of financial challenges, many of them common to many organisations working in this field.



Rabbi Maurice Michaels, SRWG member with lead responsibility for sustainability, speaking at the IFN National Meeting

A wide span of views

The Report offers in-depth reflections on those areas which the SRWG was asked to review, as well as including quotes from the very wide range of organisations which it consulted.

The consultation process included the use of a detailed questionnaire and special consultative sessions which took place as part of a meeting of the Faith Communities Forum; in link meetings of 'national and regional inter faith organisations' and 'educational and academic bodies' categories; at the annual meeting of the national inter faith linking bodies of the devolved nations with IFN; and at two pan-regional link meetings in England of the local inter faith organisations category of membership, held in Leeds and Reading. A consultative session was also held in Cardiff, at the special request of the Inter-faith Council for Wales, as part of a meeting of bodies engaged in inter faith activity in Wales, which was convened by the Inter-faith Council for Wales.

The Working Group was also made aware by IFN's Executive Committee that during the course of the Review a meeting for dialogue was due to take place between some members of the IFN Executive Committee and some representatives of the Pagan tradition. The offer of this meeting had been noted by the Co-Chair of IFN at the 2012 AGM in the light of earlier discussion by the Executive Committee. The Working Group noted in its Report that it had "been encouraged by the positive character of that meeting and the possibilities it opens up for future engagement."

"I am a representative of the Network of Buddhist Organisations but am also very involved in local inter faith activity with Islington Faiths Forum and that ties in very much with what we were talking about earlier at grass roots level. This work is so important because that is where we can help keep peace in our communities, to support those that need it which is very much the case in some areas. That came out strongly from the wonderful questionnaire responses and the consultative meetings. Comments at the meetings with member local inter faith bodies in Reading and Leeds conveyed strongly how much people in local inter faith organisations value the advice and information service of the IFN office, and chances to



Acharya Modgala Duguid with Canon John Hall

meet, and how important Inter Faith Week is to many of the groups. There is a real wish for a return to more link meetings for local inter faith organisations to come together, to share good practice, to share difficulties and how to go beyond them and to discuss issues such as sustainability. Thank you to all of those who took part and put together some incredibly helpful information that has assisted us."

ACHARYA MODGALA DUGUID, SRWG MEMBER SPEAKING AT THE NATIONAL MEETING

Hearing members' reflections on the Report and Recommendations

The Working Group submitted its Report and Recommendations to the Executive Committee's meeting in June. The Executive Committee brought these to the 2013 National Meeting and AGM on 1 July to hear member bodies' reflections on them. The AGM agreed that, starting with its first Autumn meeting, the Executive Committee should take forward work on draft strategic priorities for the coming period, responding to the recommendations in the SRWG's report, and also bearing in mind points offered by member bodies at the





“The Inter Faith Network for the UK provides a uniquely important forum in which religious communities and inter faith groups can both meet together and engage with wider society. It has contributed significantly to the strong fabric of inter religious relations in this country and I look forward to working with the Inter Faith Network as it continues to move forward.”

25 THE MOST REVD JUSTIN WELBY
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY



“As the Inter Faith Network enters into its 26th year, it is good to see that it is determined to adjust to meet the challenges of the present age ... My prayer for us all, and for the future of the Inter Faith Network, is that we patiently continue along the path of peace, and of deeper understanding, trusting that God is ever showing us the way.”

25 THE MOST REVD VINCENT NICHOLS
ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER



“Multi-faith dialogue and co-operation is crucial in helping to build a more understanding and cohesive society. The Inter Faith Network acts as an enabler for members of different faith groups in the UK to come together, to learn about each other and to work towards a better and more tolerant society. I am filled with admiration and appreciation for the vital work carried out by the Inter Faith Network and extend my heartfelt congratulations to it on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.”

25 CHIEF RABBI EPHRAIM MIRVIS
UNITED HEBREW CONGREGATIONS OF THE
COMMONWEALTH



Above and left, discussion groups at the National Meeting

National Meeting and AGM. It was noted that any resolutions which may be required to take account of any proposals for change on matters such as membership policy or governance that require amendment to the Memorandum and Articles of Association or to Bye-Laws will be put forward for endorsement by an EGM; and that a forward strategy will also be brought to member bodies.

There will be a longer report in the next Annual Review on the outcome of the Review process after the response to the SRWG's recommendations has been developed and the next steps in the Review process have been implemented.

At the National Meeting, Patricia Stoa, together with two of her SRWG colleagues, Acharya Modgala Duguid and Rabbi Maurice Michaels, introduced its Report and Recommendations. Participants took part in one of the following seven workshops, each focusing on different areas of the Strategic Review:

- *Membership of the Inter Faith Network: ways ahead* facilitated by Alistair Beattie, Chief Executive of Faithnetsouthwest
- *Vision, values and process – how IFN and its member bodies work together* facilitated by Edwin Graham of the Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum and the Baha'i community.
- *Growth at the grassroots: local inter faith support and sharing of good practice* facilitated by Hifsa Haroon-Iqbal, Chair of the North Staffordshire Forum of Faiths
- *Resourcing inter faith work and the sustainability of IFN* facilitated by Dorab Mistry of the Zoroastrian community
- *IFN's future programmes of work* facilitated by Jaysukh Mehta of the Institute of Jainology, and Rowena Loverance of the Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations
- *Getting the message across: awareness raising and advocacy* facilitated by Philip Rosenberg of Faiths Forum for London
- *Increasing involvement of women in IFN and engagement with young people* facilitated by Charanjit Ajit-Singh of Hounslow Friends of Faith and Gerald Nembhard, Chair of the West Midlands Faiths Forum

“The lasting effects of the past 25 years of dedicated service by the Network to the communities and the wider British society have engaged the Hindu community with appreciation and positive regard. We think that the rapidly changing nature of the society in Britain will bring further challenges for the Network and the faith communities especially the years of austerity and their impact on charitable activities. But we have a firm belief that with the active engagement of the key strands of society and the leaders of the faith communities, the Network will help to negotiate the complexities towards positive outcomes...”

25 HINDU FORUM OF BRITAIN

“... We offer our heartfelt congratulations to the Trustees, to the past and present Directors, and to the staff, all of whom have worked so hard to make IFN a key actor in facilitating good relations between the faith communities, in opening doors between faith communities and Government, and in supporting faith communities and inter faith groups as they play their part in making the world a better place. We wish the Inter Faith Network continued success and development in the years ahead.”

25 NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

“We are grateful for the sterling work of the Network in keeping alive the importance of inter faith relations at local and national level. The Network has been an example and encouragement to all who have worked with CAIRS throughout the years. We have been particularly grateful for the Network's reflections about the place of religious discourse in public life and the importance of faiths working together for the common good of society.”

25 CHURCHES' AGENCY FOR INTER-FAITH RELATIONS IN SCOTLAND

SUPPORTING AND HELPING STRENGTHEN THE PATTERN OF INTER FAITH WORK IN THE UK

Information and advice

IFN helps member bodies and the general public through providing the kind of information and advice which can support new inter faith initiatives in getting off the ground and existing ones in developing their work. It does this by such means as:

- producing resources to help people working on inter faith projects
- helping enquirers
- responding to requests to speak about IFN's work and also on other relevant issues such as the importance of the work of local inter faith bodies
- responding to specific requests from member bodies for advice or engagement
- sending Circulars on relevant issues to member bodies

During the year, the IFN office has provided, in consultation with its member bodies and others, information and advice to members of the public and to a broad spectrum of organisations, ranging from local inter faith groups, to universities, emergency services and Government departments.

Enquiries ranged from requests for information on developing inter faith groups to practical questions about the practices of different faith communities. Some enquirers contacted IFN with one off queries; others, such as Holocaust Memorial Day, contacted it as part of working on longer term projects to extend and deepen their pattern of engagement with faith communities.

In a few cases, IFN staff have had a longer term involvement where the Executive Committee has seen this as fitting with IFN's aims and being important to carrying these out. So, for example, during 2012, the Assistant Director played an active role in the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) Diamond Jubilee related special programme called 'A Year of Service' and the Director with the Near Neighbours programme, which was established by the Church Urban Fund with funding from DCLG to bring people together who are near neighbours in communities that are diverse, so they can get to know each other better, build relationships and collaborate together on initiatives that improve the local community they live in. There was also continued

engagement with the BBC Standing Conference on Religion and Belief; the National Council of Faiths and Beliefs in Further Education; and with two of IFN's member bodies, the Religious Education Council of England and Wales and the Shap Working Party on World Religions.

"... We applaud the Network's extended range of connections regionally and locally, and those with inter faith organisations and academic institutions. In addition to conferences and important publications, the Network has offered advice to thousands of enquirers, facilitated dialogue and understanding in times of difficulty and enabled collective expressions of solidarity on the occasion of national celebrations."

25 CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND

Some examples of queries this year:

I am organising an inter faith women's symposium and am looking for speakers from different religions. Please can you put me in touch with national faith community organisations?

We are setting up an inter faith homeless night shelter. Are you aware of any other inter faith organisations that have done this that we could speak to?

We would like to make sure that our AGM does not clash with a religious festival. How can we check this?

Please could you let us have details for the local inter faith group in Bradford.

We are organising an inter faith tree planting event. How can we let people know about this?

Our national faith community is holding an Inter Faith Week event. We would like to discuss this with you.

We would like to include young people from different faiths in the opening service of the Paralympic Games. Can you advise us on how to achieve this?

We are setting up a new local inter faith organisation in our area. Do you have any examples of local inter faith group constitutions that we could consider?

Independent local inter faith bodies around the UK



Where can we find funding for our local inter faith initiative?

We are considering merging with another local inter faith body. Could a staff member come and talk with us?

We are an international inter faith programme and we are wanting to meet and interview people of faith in some cities in the UK. Could you help us make contacts here?

Our school is holding an annual Remembrance assembly and we want to acknowledge the multi faith nature of the community and the varied faith and ethnic backgrounds of British troops. Can you suggest relevant resources and contacts who can advise on this?

IFN Circulars during the year drew member bodies' attention to a wide range of issues and opportunities. They also helped, as did IFN's e-bulletin, to keep readers in touch with a range of relevant public policy issues such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission's (EHRC) religion or belief seminars; Home Office hate crime data; the new Equality and Advisory Support Service; the Home Office review of Section 7 powers; developments relating to 'equal marriage'; the Commission on a Bill of Rights report; Charitable Incorporated Organisations; and EHRC guidance on religion and belief in the workplace.

During the year IFN staff members spoke at a number of events, for example meetings of: Faith Network 4 Manchester; Reading Interfaith Group; Interfaith Scotland; the East of England Faiths Council; a range of Inter Faith Week events; some meetings specific to particular sectors, such as Further Education, a meeting of denominational inter faith officers organised by Churches Together in England with Churches Together in Britain and Ireland; an event hosted by Religions for Peace (UK) at the House of Lords to mark World Interfaith Harmony Week; the national launch event for Islam Awareness Week in Sheffield; 'Bhagavad Gita – Hindu and Christian Perspectives' at the Leicester Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies; a Public Policy Exchange event on community cohesion and social inclusion encouraging local authorities to engage well with faith groups and inter faith bodies; and an event for women inter faith practitioners at a Christian Muslim Forum event. Staff also attended a range of different faith community events.

IFN's website at www.interfaith.org.uk provides information about its work and publications. It also allows the downloading of some of its publications as well as providing links to the internet pages of other projects with which IFN has been involved. IFN also has

a separate site for Inter Faith Week which carries information and resources for Week event organisers: www.interfaithweek.org

“The Inter Faith Network has helped the Muslim community enormously in developing good relations with other faith communities – and continues to do so. The British Muslim Forum congratulates the Inter Faith Network on its Anniversary and very strongly supports its role and function as part of the vital task of continuing to develop good inter faith relations in Britain.”

25 BRITISH MUSLIM FORUM

Encouraging mutual learning and sharing good practice

Another way in which IFN helps to promote and develop positive inter faith relations is by producing good practice resources and encouraging other organisations to produce resources and develop programmes to increase inter faith understanding. It also does so through facilitating meetings about issues of common concern, including the meetings of the different categories of IFN's member bodies. This can help the development of more effective complementary patterns of work and avoidance of duplication of effort.

Local Inter Faith

Local inter faith organisations (LIFOs) have a vital role in providing contexts in which greater understanding and practical cooperation can be developed between people of different faiths. IFN's website carries contact details for local groups around the UK: www.interfaith.org.uk.

Supporting the strong development of inter faith work at local level is a vital part of the IFN's work – both directly and through its cooperation with the Inter-faith Council for Wales, Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum, Scottish Inter Faith Council and with other inter faith bodies nationally and regionally.

As well as ongoing support and advice to local groups by phone and through visits, two link meetings for local inter faith IFN member bodies in England were held, on a pan-regional basis, in Leeds on 7 May and in Reading on 9 May. These locations were chosen in consultation with remaining Regional Faith Forums who were invited to send representation and also to report on their work.



Ashley Beck (centre) with Interfaith Scotland Director Dr Maureen Sier (second left) and local practitioners in Inverness

The meetings were opportunities for the sharing of information and discussion of issues of common concern. Each meeting also included a dedicated session on the IFN Strategic Review (see also at page 4). Inter faith groups in Wales were invited to a Strategic Review related meeting held in Cardiff on 12 April. Scottish inter faith groups are linked in membership by Interfaith Scotland which held its annual meeting for them in September in Inverness which was attended by IFN's Inter Faith Development Officer.

Inter Faith Week 2012 also generated wide participation by LIFOs, as in previous years, and IFN worked to promote local events through putting information about them on the Inter Faith Week website. Throughout the year IFN also continued to respond to enquiries and information requests from and about LIFOs and to circulate relevant information such as details of grant schemes.

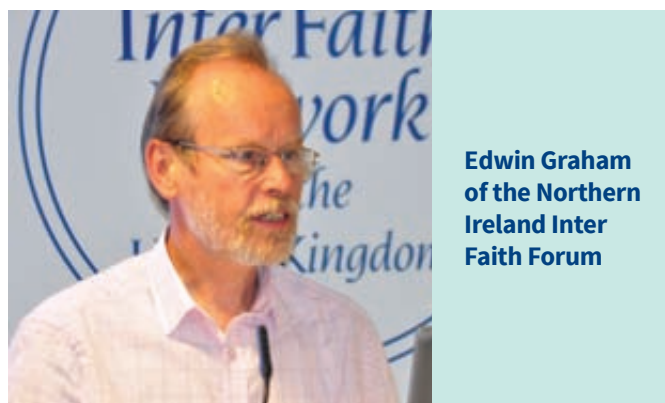
UK and National inter faith linking bodies

A meeting for the national inter faith linking bodies of the devolved nations and the UK, took place in Cardiff in April, organised by the IFN office and hosted by the Inter Faith Council for Wales. Participants from IFN, Inter Faith Council for Wales, Interfaith Scotland and the Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum exchanged updates on their programmes of work and discussed IFN's Strategic Review, Inter Faith Week and Scottish Inter Faith Week; issues of membership and structure; and funding.

“We are aware of the exceptional work that the Network does across the UK, and of how widely it is appreciated by national, regional and local interfaith groups; diverse faith communities; diverse voluntary and statutory agencies and by National Government.

The promoting, sustaining and developing of structures for interfaith dialogue and the publication of educational materials to enhance interfaith understanding has in no small measure helped to create a more cohesive and tolerant United Kingdom. ... The Scottish Inter Faith Council [now Interfaith Scotland] looks forward to further opportunities to work with you and appreciates the friendship that exists between our two organisations.”

25 INTERFAITH SCOTLAND



**Edwin Graham
of the Northern
Ireland Inter
Faith Forum**



Gerald Nembhard of the West Midlands Faiths Forum

Keeping such bodies and programmes in touch and raising awareness about their work is an important part of IFN's work. A meeting of representatives of these inter faith organisations was held in London on 22 April. It included news and round ups from 14 bodies which were represented and a special agenda item exploring multi/inter faith social action and dialogue, which included a presentation by Paresh Solanki. The meeting also included a session on the Strategic Review.

Educational and Academic Bodies

A meeting was held on 13 May for all member bodies within the 'Educational and Academic Bodies' category of membership, which included an SRWG consultative session as a key component. Discussion was also had on organisations' work and current projects, and about Inter Faith Week.

During the year IFN staff attended meetings of the Religious Education Council for England and Wales (REC) and the Shap Working Party on World Religions, and the Interfaith Development Officer was invited to give a presentation in September to the Officers of the National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education (NASACRE).

“Over the last 25 years the IFN has made a significant contribution to building a better society for all right across the United Kingdom. During a period of great change inter-faith relations have proved durable and IFN's work has been a platform for learning, co-operation and action on the ground. Unitarians and Free Christians, whose roots in inter-faith work go back to the first World Parliament of Religions in Chicago in 1893, have been pleased to support IFN in its pursuit of a more inclusive society and we look forward to a closer engagement in the future.”

25 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNITARIAN AND FREE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

National and regional inter faith bodies

Among IFN's member bodies are 38 inter faith organisations and programmes whose work is carried out at UK or national level or which, while mainly regionally focused, are used by people across the country. A full list of such bodies can be found at the end of this report. Links to their websites with further information about their work can be found on IFN's website www.interfaith.org.uk

A number of these bodies work primarily with particular traditions (although in some cases using their bilateral and trilateral expertise to work more broadly). Others work with people of any religion or belief. Some have a particular area of focus for their work, such as reconciliation. A few are initiatives which are run by particular faith traditions and have a focus on the engagement of these with wider society but seek also to increase understanding between and about faiths beyond their tradition. All play a vital role in helping provide resources for inter faith work and a wide range of training and opportunities for individuals to take part in and deepen their skills for dialogue.

Raising awareness, deepening understanding

Through its meetings and its advice and information service, the Inter Faith Network, with its member bodies, helps the teachings, traditions and practices of the different faith communities in the UK and the pattern of their inter faith work be better known and understood.

2012–13 was a significant and challenging year for Religious Education in England and IFN kept member bodies in touch with developments, including the REC's work to produce an RE Subject Review, along the lines of the Government's National Curriculum Review, as well as working towards a new, national Curriculum Framework for RE. IFN has kept its member bodies informed as this process has developed, both through the E-bulletin and through briefings at meetings of the Faith Communities Forum to which the Chair of the REC, John Keast, and former Chair, Professor Brian Gates, were invited to speak.

Advocating for – and enabling more people to be actively involved in – inter faith learning, dialogue and practical cooperation

There is a growing recognition of the importance of inter faith understanding and inter faith cooperation in our increasingly diverse society and the Inter Faith Network and its member bodies continue to make an important contribution to this.

During the year in review IFN continued to advocate for greater involvement in, and support of, programmes to develop positive inter faith understanding and engagement and to help draw more people of all ages into this vital work. It also worked to increase opportunities for involvement and to help those working to put inter faith engagement at the heart of local communities and national society. This advocacy takes place in a range of contexts, such as through providing an opportunity for national faith communities to engage multilaterally with Government; through encouraging the media and the public at large to recognise the significance of religious identity for many people in the UK and the importance of inter faith engagement; and through supporting faith communities, educators and others in developing their own inter faith programmes.

“Over the last 25 years IFN has been the most respected standard bearer of promoting mutual respect and understanding between the major faith communities and the wider society. It has achieved this by, among other things, adopting the very highest standards of integrity, good governance and assisting local communities to engage in interfaith activities throughout the country. With every passing year, its work has become ever more necessary in a fast changing world.”

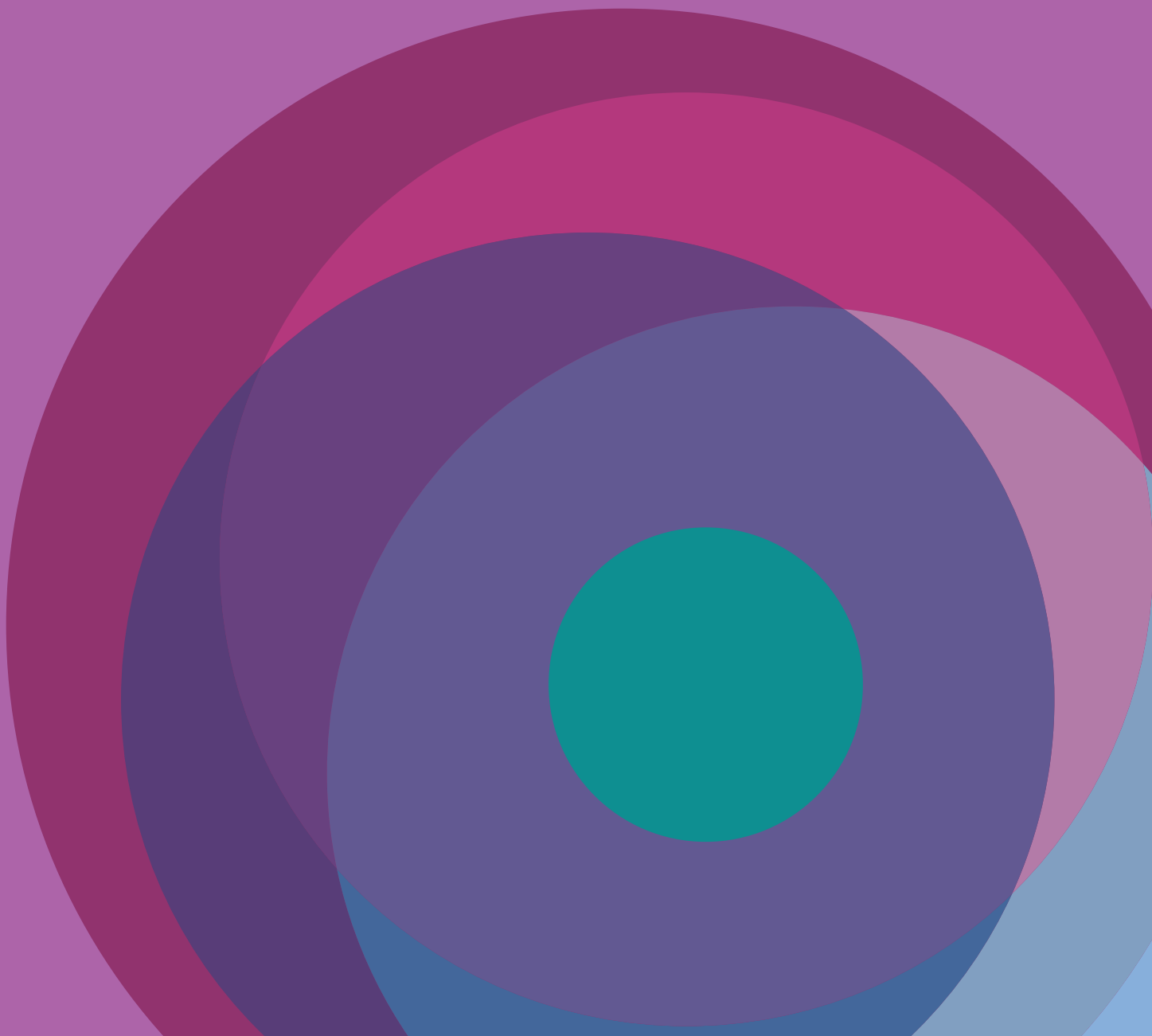
25 SAYED MOHAMMAD AL-MUSAWI, WORLD AHLUL-BAYT ISLAMIC LEAGUE

Inter Faith Week

www.interfaithweek.org

INTER FAITH WEEK'S AIMS ARE:

- strengthening good inter faith relations at all levels
- increasing awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK, in particular celebrating and building on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society
- increasing understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs



A key route through which IFN helps expand engagement with dialogue, learning and practical cooperation is Inter Faith Week. In 2009 it was decided by the Trustees of IFN to launch, in partnership with the Government for the first year, a national Inter Faith Week in England and Wales to help to broaden knowledge about, and involvement in, inter faith activity and cooperation as well as to increase knowledge about the different faith communities and their contribution to society. Northern Ireland joined in the Week in 2010. A separate, very successful, inter faith week has run in Scotland since 2004: Scottish Inter Faith Week.

Preparation for, and support of, the 2012 Inter Faith Week, including reporting on the 2011 Week and further development of its website (www.interfaithweek.org), was a major part of IFN's work during 2012–13. The online listing process was further enhanced to improve the searchable map; and the event submission and listing process. The IFN office worked to draw in and check, so far as possible, details on several hundred events and to bring examples of these to the attention of the media as part of raising the public profile of the Week.

Inter Faith Week has become perhaps the best known dimension of IFN's work and it helps groups around the country to profile their work and further widen participation in inter faith dialogue and cooperation. The following special spread gives an overview of the Week.

“... The Network's work in promoting dialogue and active cooperation between different faith communities has been hugely instrumental in fostering better understanding between people of different faiths in our country, and indeed between people of faith and those without religious beliefs.

The organisation's work on the annual Inter Faith Week has also successfully highlighted the positive relationships that exist in our communities and the way in which faith groups are serving their local communities and wider society...”

25 THE RT HON ERIC PICKLES MP, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Scottish Inter Faith Week ran from 25 November until 1 December, with a special event held at the Scottish Parliament and a lively programme of events held by different bodies. The event at the Parliament was attended by IFN's Director, and also by the soon-to-be Co-Chair, the Revd Bob Fyffe, reflecting the close relationship between Scottish Inter Faith Week and Inter Faith Week in the other nations of the UK which drew its inspiration from the Scottish Week.

Inter Faith Week 2012 in England, Northern Ireland and Wales ran from Sunday 18 to Tuesday 27 November. Following conversation with DCLG, the Royal Household and the Big Lunch, this was a special, extended Week, with a number of events linked to both the Diamond Jubilee and the A Year of Service programme (AYOS) of DCLG.

A wide range of events

Events took place in hundreds of venues, including places of worship, community centres, sports facilities, civic centres, workplaces, schools, universities and colleges, prisons, hospitals, shopping centres and many other locations. A wide range of organisations held events including: faith community bodies and local congregations; inter faith organisations; businesses; local authorities; schools; emergency services; schools, FE colleges and universities; student unions and societies; youth organisations; community organisations; charities; and academic institutions, among others. Many took part in Inter Faith Week for the first time. The Week received some enthusiastic media coverage, including a piece in *The Times* and coverage in many local papers. The popular resources for schools, in addition to being available on the main Week website, were also hosted on the *Times Educational Supplement* website.

The first Sunday of the Week was, again this year, also 'Mitzvah Day', with many jointly held events.

The Inter-Faith Council for Wales, Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum and Regional Faith Forums (RFFs) in the East, North East, South East, South West and West Midlands of England and London played an important role in relation to their respective nations and regions, helping to encourage events and, in some cases, holding launches or other events for the Week.

Service, seasons, scripture, sport – and many other topics

A multitude of different kinds of events took place to mark the Week. Some had a particular focus for discussion between participants, such as St Mary's College Twickenham's 'Mary and Jesus in the New

Testament, 'Diwali Dhamaka: The story of Diwali' at Dewsbury Town Hall and a 'hands-on' event about the concept of 'sewa'/service in Sikhism at the Guru Nanak Gurdwara in Huddersfield arranged by Kirklees Faith Forum. Others were broad in their scope, such as Horsham's 'Unity and Diversity' event, the Festival of Light in Rochdale, an 'Inter Faith Seasonal Celebration' held by Balham and Tooting Community Association and the 'Cultural Connections' event held by Tangnefedd/Inter Faith Forum in Wrexham; or had general themes such as 'Sacred Planet, Sacred People' (Brighton and Hove Interfaith Contact Group) and 'Dialogue as a Tool for Deepening Relationships' (Cumbria Interfaith Forum and Churches Together in Cumbria).

Unsurprisingly, the Olympic year saw sport featuring in a number of events with ex-footballer Fabrice Muamba kicking off Inter Faith Week at a Greater Manchester inter faith groups' event in Bolton; Dame Tessa Jowell (former Olympics Minister) speaking at a Women's Interfaith Network event, and a presentation from Quaker Peter Green, who was part of the multi faith chaplaincy team at the Olympics and Paralympics.



Some events involved particular faiths, for example an Oxford Council of Christian and Jews event, "Mission – Why it still divides us. Or does it?" and a Muslim Council of Wales event: "Noah's Laws: A Muslim and Jewish Interfaith Event". Others, such as 'Faith in Plural Society' (arranged by the British Sikh Consultative Forum), Burngreave Ashram's 'Symposium on Discipleship in Different Faith Traditions' and a Coventry Inter Faith Network Inter Faith Week launch event, involved many faiths. There were also events which encouraged religious/non-religious dialogue.

Walking the talk

Multi faith walks and pilgrimages were again popular, taking place in many towns and cities such as Bedford, Bolton and Watford, as were visits to place of worship, such as those organised by Hillingdon Inter Faith Network, Solihull Faiths Forum and Suffolk Inter-Faith Resource. A number of places of worship opened their doors to local visitors. Some organisations such as Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service used the Week as a chance to visit a local place of worship, in its case the Gurdwara Sahib Temple in Leamington Spa.

Making music together

Popular also were musical events, such as the Wellingborough Multi Faith Choir event and a 'Sacred Sounds' event held by the Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum at Down County Museum, and art events such as Harrow Inter Faith Council's 'Faith and the Arts' event at the Zoroastrian Centre.

“For a generation, the Inter Faith Network for the UK has championed the presence and potential of faith communities to civic life and wider society. ... It is an institution which we at local level respect and have worked alongside on major national initiatives. One of the most important being National Inter Faith Week which year by year, has risen in prominence not only for faith communities but also our partners, particularly those in the public sector. The Inter Faith Network for the UK has kept faith on the map nationally by working with successive governments and at local level, by supporting the development of inter faith bodies.”

25 ST PHILIP'S CENTRE, LEICESTER



Rabbi Natan Levy speaking at a Muslim Council of Wales event to mark Inter Faith Week



The Rt Hon Baroness Warsi with Dr Natubhai Shah, AYOS Inter Faith Week event

Social action

There were also a number of events with a social focus including 'Faith in Nottingham – Supporting our Local Communities' (Nottingham Inter Faith Council); 'Faith and Emergency Planning' (Welwyn Hatfield Interfaith Group); a talk 'Do Charity and Justice go Hand in Hand' (Council of Christians and Jews and Birmingham Council of Faiths); 'Faith Groups – Building Social Harmony in the Community' (faithnetsouthwest); and an event on Big Society and faith groups at a time of austerity (Cheshire Inter Faith Network). BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, London partnered with St Mary's Church in Willesden to raise money for local charities. Tree planting events took place in a number of places, including Wakefield (Wakefield and District Interfaith Group and Natural Environment Services) and at the Sri Balaji Temple Dudley (Hindu Council UK) and Rotherham (Rotherham Interfaith). Building Bridges in Burnley held an event to enable faith community members and others to learn about a range of local social projects.

At the University of Glamorgan, students had a chance to connect with a range of charities which use volunteers at a 'Volunteering Together' project. In Coventry, the Gurdwara Guru Nanak Parkash opened its doors to local homeless people to join in langar (free food from the communal kitchen). A number of events connected to Mitzvah Day involved collecting and distributing food to those in need. Health and religious ethical issues were also explored as part of the week, through events such as 'Faith and Health' held by Calderdale Interfaith Council in Halifax, a multi faith blood donor drive 'Save a Life this Inter Faith Week' run by the Golders Green Shree Swaminarayan Temple in

London, a Jewish Medical Association UK/Muslim Healthcare Students Network panel discussion at University College London 'Circumcision Circumscribed' and a debate on 'Saving Life and its Limits' at Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham.

A special A Year of Service Inter Faith Week event was held at Coin Street Community Centre in South London with a keynote speech from Baroness Warsi on faith and social action. The event highlighted social action work undertaken by faith communities under the Year of Service initiative and by Near Neighbours with stands from different faith communities and input from the Faith based Regeneration Network and Mitzvah Day. IFN's Director also spoke at the event.

Equalities and human rights

Equalities and human rights issues were explored by a number of events, including one held by the Employers Network for Equality and Inclusion and 'Religious Freedom UK: Religious Freedom and Religious Equality in the 21st Century' (Children of Abraham (Imams and Rabbis Council UK), Interfaith Alliance UK, Universal Peace Federation and Religions Working Together).



Speaker at BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir

New partnerships

In a number of areas, many different bodies came together to hold events in partnership – for example, an 'inter faith summit' held by Southend Interfaith Working Group and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council; a day event looking at faith groups and the business community held by Wisbech Interfaith Forum with the support of Fenland District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire Police, Wisbech Churches Together and Wisbech Town Chaplaincy; and an inter faith event sponsored by the Devon Faiths and Beliefs Forum, the Exeter University Student Guild and Multi Faith Chaplaincy and the Exeter Interfaith Group.

While many events were specific to a neighbourhood or local authority area, others covered much wider areas, such as a regional networking event held in Gateshead by the North East Regional Faiths Network.

Youth inter faith activities

Many events were for people of all ages but some had a particular age focus, for example a Thurrock Youth SACRE conference, inter faith networking opportunities for teenagers in Dudley and Peterborough (the Beehive Community Centre); a multi faith art project “Who am I?” run by Art Beyond Belief, Slough Faith Partnership and Oxford Diocesan Committee for Inter Faith Concerns; an Inter Faith Board Games event held by Lambeth Youth Faith Forum; and workshops; an inter faith concert held in Maidenhead by Windsor and Maidenhead Community Forum, and special focus in lessons in schools such as Severnvale in Quedgley (Gloucestershire), South Leeds Academy, Alne Primary School near Thirsk in North Yorkshire and Sutton Grammar School.

In Plymouth, the SACRE hosted a discussion on the place and future of Religious Education in schools and the community. In York, a film was shot on location featuring young people from the five largest faith communities in the City and shown at a ‘Young Faiths in the City’ event. There were also special collaborations, such as in Preston where six high schools and colleges developed and displayed posters on different faiths in the City for a ‘Common Ground’ exhibition organised by Preston Faith Forums with Lancashire Forum of Faiths and a range of civic and media partners.

In Birmingham, The Feast and ThinkTank worked with Year 7–9 Christian and Muslim students at Broadway School Safe Haven in Aston to contribute together to an exhibition in the Birmingham Science Museum. Schools

were also the location for a number of other Inter Faith Week events, such as the Barking and Dagenham Faith Forum launch at Henry Green Primary School.

FE and HE events – with NUS support

Inter faith events took place in many Universities and Colleges of Further Education. Some – such as those at Newman University College Birmingham, the University of Bristol and South Gloucestershire and Stroud College – were chaplaincy led. Many were student led with support from a special grant programme from the National Union of Students. Some students and chaplaincies held joint events, such as inter faith conversation ‘cafés’ at Cardiff University and Liverpool John Moore’s University with a series of perspectives from people of Baha’i, Muslim (Isma’ili), Pagan, Sikh traditions and an Abrahamic ‘trialogue’ arranged by Newcastle University Students Union and the Chaplaincy.

A grant programme from the Inter Faith Youth Trust enabled a range of inter faith youth projects to take place.

Women-focused events and projects

There were also events particularly for women, such as a Women in Faith Group in Merseyside (WING) multi faith event on ‘Celebrating Women’s Lives – Quilt Making’ and a Christian Muslim Forum women’s event ‘Come to the Edge’.



An event organised by InterAct (Interfaith Action) to mark Inter Faith Week



Pupils at Warren Primary School at Thurrock Youth SACRE/ NATRE event to mark Inter Faith Week

Food and faith

Sharing of food and learning about food was widely popular with such events being held in many villages, districts, towns and cities such as Batley, Cheltenham, Southampton, York and the London Borough of Sutton. West Midlands Faith Forum held a special celebratory lunch to launch the Week in its region and the London Borough Faiths Network hosted 'Afternoon tea in Multifaith Europe'. At Nottingham Trent University, a 'speed faithing' event took place where students moved round tackling at speed such questions as "what makes *halal* meat different?", 'what does 'kosher' actually mean?' and 'why hot cross buns before Easter?'

A number of academic and educational bodies held seminars or special exhibitions, such as the 'Celebrating Diversity' exhibition at University of Wales, Trinity St David or were the location for discussions and debates, such as a Joseph Interfaith Foundation event at the London School of Economics in conjunction with its Islamic Society: on "Religious Freedom Today: The Boundaries Between Freedom of Conscience in Religious and Secularism".

Exhibitions

Exhibitions were a feature of Inter Faith Week in a number of areas. Two examples of different kinds were the faith exhibition hosted by the Leicester Council of Faiths in the Highcross Shopping Centre and 'Spiritual Treasures', organised by Stevenage Together, exploring the spiritual symbols and artefacts of different local faith groups. The Near Neighbours programme held a photographic exhibition at St Martin in the Bullring Church in Birmingham featuring stories of the people that had been brought together by the project's work.

Week long programmes

A number of organisations in places such as Birmingham, Bolton, Burnley, Coventry, Hillingdon, Kirklees, Leicester, Nottingham, Preston and York have made holding wide-ranging Inter Faith Week programmes a real tradition across the last few years, using the Week as a platform to introduce new people to their work and to inter faith and intercultural dialogue and cooperation more generally. Several other areas saw expanded Week programmes this year.



Faith and Fire Kendal – part of South Lakeland Interfaith Group’s marking of Inter Faith Week

Springboard for new projects

The Week was used in a number of areas to launch a special new project – such as the new Multi-Faith and Contemplation Suite opened by Leicestershire County Council– or to consult about or strengthen an existing initiative.

Faith Through a Lens

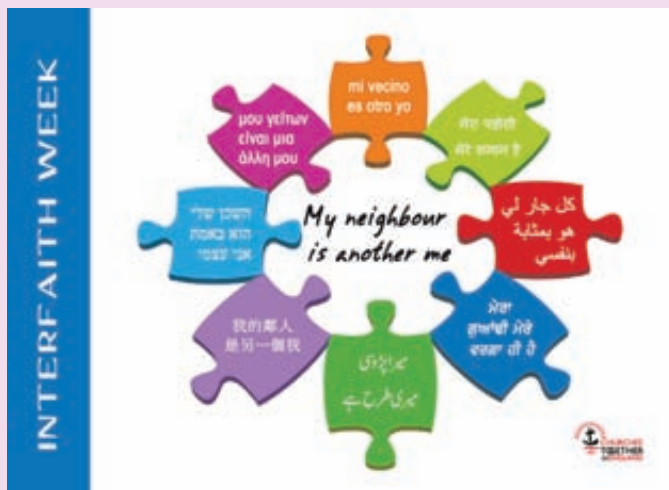
The now annual national ‘Faith Through a Lens’ competition, held by Congregational and General in association with the Inter Faith Network for the UK and Churches Together in England, took place this year in London, with a special link to A Year of Service. The judges were led by the award-winning photojournalist and photographer Don McCullin. They were joined for 2012 by Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles.



Slough Faith Partnership Inter Faith Week event



The winner of the annual Faith Through a Lens competition held to mark Inter Faith Week



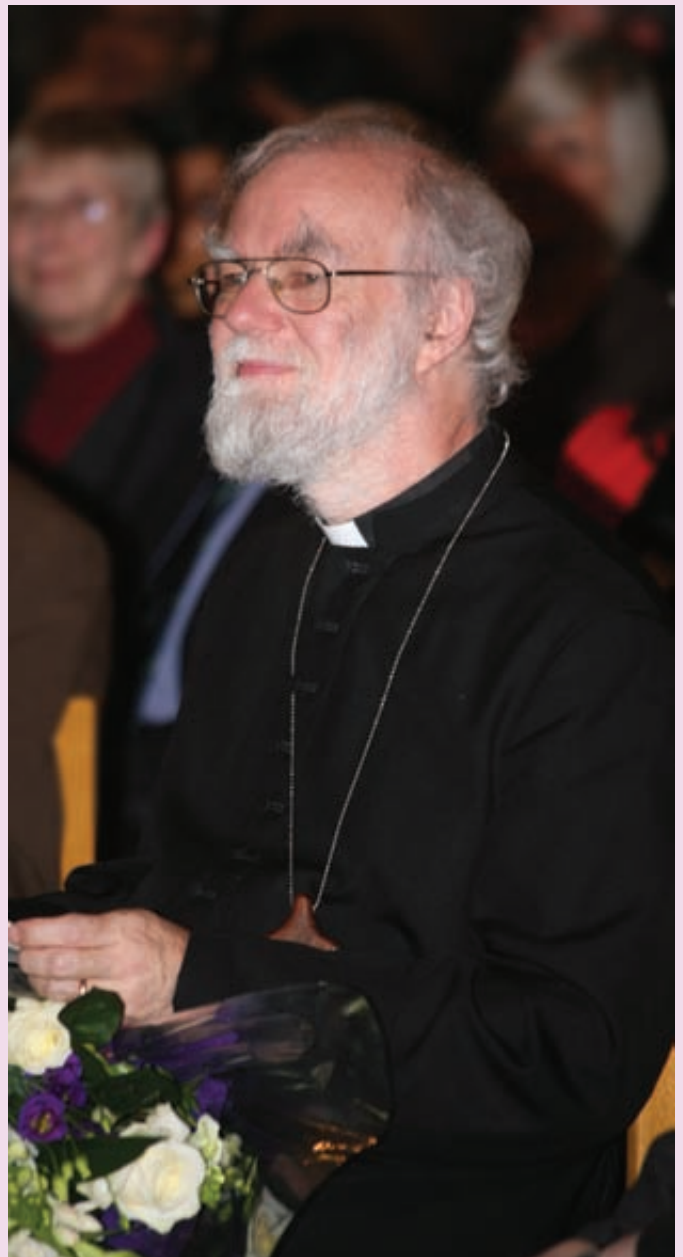
My neighbour is another me – an Inter Faith Week resource produced by Churches Together in England

Lambeth Palace Inter Faith Week reception

A special Inter Faith Week reception took place at Lambeth Palace, hosted by the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, on 22 November. This was linked to Inter Faith Week and offered a chance both for farewell reflections on inter faith issues by the Archbishop and for those present to thank him for his important contribution to inter faith relations in this country. The reception had a link also to IFN's 25th Anniversary. The Archbishop spoke about the significance of its work and IFN's Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs made a formal presentation to him at the close of the event.

“One of the things that I have been grateful for over my time as Archbishop of Canterbury has been the warmth of engagement between the leaders in the faith communities. There is a sense that we, and the communities of which we are a part, are more at ease with each other, respectful of our differences and more confident in working together for the good of our whole society. In the journey that we have been on to arrive at this point, we owe a considerable debt of gratitude to the IFN for providing a framework of opportunities for these relationships and for our joint working to flourish..”

25 DR ROWAN WILLIAMS, THEN ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY



Dr Rowan Williams at an Inter Faith Week reception at Lambeth Palace

LIVING WELL TOGETHER

Last year's Annual Review reported on a document which had been launched ahead of Inter Faith Week containing a set of questions on the theme *Living well together in Britain today*. It was widely distributed to local and national faith and inter faith bodies, and is available on the Inter Faith Week website at www.interfaithweek.org/resources/living-well-together. The questions highlight many aspects of our common life in our increasingly diverse country.

“...I believe the fact that the UK has such a good record of inter faith dialogue and cooperation – the envy of many countries in these worrying times – is in no small measure due to the careful and sensitive work of the Network over 25 years.”

25 THE RT HON BARONESS SAYEEDA WARSI,
MINISTER FOR FAITH AND COMMUNITIES

Faith communities in conversation on key issues

This year IFN held meetings of member bodies and others to address issues linked to 'living together well'. One way that it did so was through its ongoing 'Faith and Public Life' programme. This includes work with its member bodies to engage with Government and other agencies on relevant areas of their work. Good inter faith relations and co-operation across faiths is more likely where people of different faiths feel valued and active members of society. IFN supports the work of faith communities in the sphere of shared engagement with public life issues through the regular updates provided to its Faith Communities Forum (FCF) to which its faith community representative body members can send representatives. The FCF is also a forum at which faith community representative organisations in membership of IFN can be consulted multi-laterally by Government and other public bodies on a wide range of relevant issues.

During 2012 –13 the areas of public policy development which received particular attention were: the Government's revised 'Prevent' agenda; the subject review of Religious Education and the new Religious Education curriculum; the data on religious adherence from the 2011 Census; ways in which faith communities engage together for the common good; the Government's 'Together in Service' project; the review of the Public Sector Equality Duty; the judgements on

religious freedom cases from the UK at the European Court of Human Rights; the Government's position on caste discrimination; and the work of the UK Border Agency. All of these issues have a direct bearing on our ability to 'live well together'.

IFN's relationships with Government departments and other public bodies are important in its work of building good inter faith relations. Its main link with the Government has been through the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). It has also kept in touch with other Government Departments, including the Department for Education, the Home Office, the Government Equalities Office and the Cabinet Office. The inter faith linking bodies of the devolved nations engage with their governments/administrations over public life issues and there is sharing of information on some of these.

IFN has continued to encourage Government and other agencies, at UK, regional and local level, to involve the faith communities in discussion about policy and service delivery. In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland the member national linking inter faith bodies carry this work forward independently.

“...The work of the IFN has been invaluable in promoting the values of tolerance and respect in our society as well as in fostering good relations between the various communities of which it is comprised.... the Board of Deputies is very proud to have been associated with the IFN from its very beginning and looks forward to a further fruitful association in the future.”

25 BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS

“... Over the years, the Inter Faith Network has done much in promoting understanding between different faiths and achieved many successes. Now...it's a time for both reflection on the past and for looking to the future. To my mind we now need to look beyond simply promoting respect and understanding between different faiths, to actively working together for a fairer and more harmonious society. Over the past 25 years we have succeeded in bringing religion back in from the margins of society. We now need to

show that we can work together to make our common ethical teachings a permanent and major antidote to an all too evident growing pursuit of material gain to the exclusion of wide human responsibilities.”

25 LORD SINGH OF WIMBLEDON CBE, NETWORK OF SIKH ORGANISATIONS UK

“We have a wonderful opportunity to understand other faiths and explore the common ground which we all share. By working together in this way, we have a great opportunity to be of service to the community. Looking ahead to the future, I think the biggest challenge we face is to reach out beyond our existing network to the many people in our wider neighbourhoods to show how a system of moral principles can help one to live in peace with oneself and with the wider community.”

25 CHIEF SANGANAYAKA BOGODA SEELAWIMALA, SRI LANKAN SANGHA SABHA

“... The Inter Faith Network has weathered many political and religious storms over the past 25 years and has come up the stronger for it. IFN continues to offer helpful opportunities for dialogue, discussion and genuine community development both at the grassroots and at a national level ...”

25 RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

“Inter faith work is not glamorous but it is hugely important. At a time when diversity is increasing and the scope for misunderstandings has multiplied, the work undertaken by IFN is critical and necessary ... it brings ... faiths – large and small – together on a level playing field and helps our interaction with government, with legislators, with the executive and other social organisations and interests.”

25 ZOROASTRIAN TRUST FUNDS OF EUROPE

Catering and Faith Based Dietary Practice

Across recent years, catering has seen some difficult interactions over the needs of different religious (and other) traditions, for example in relation to the provision of *halal* and non-*halal* catering in institutional contexts such as schools. This is a very significant issue in terms of our ability to ‘live well together’ as a society.

Faith based dietary practice is taken very seriously by many people of faith in Britain today and is a significant and positive aspect of their personal commitment to living out their faith. It is important for people to be free to live out their personal beliefs, whether religious or non-religious, including in matters of dietary practice and it is not appropriate for choices of food and drink to be imposed on people regardless of their religious, cultural, social or ethnic background. Therefore sensitivity and care need to be exercised when catering for those who follow particular dietary practice for reasons of their belief, whether religious or non-religious.

Following discussion at meetings of IFN’s Faith Communities Forum and Executive, a multi faith Working Group was tasked with developing guidance on faith and dietary practice to assist in supporting and broadening the pattern of catering provision for multi faith contexts and deepening understanding of faith based dietary needs. Aimed at those responsible for catering in public and private institutions for people of a range of different faith backgrounds, the resulting document has four sections:

- ‘Some key principles’ concerning faith based dietary practice – which explain both the importance and provenance of the document.
- Part 1 ‘Some general points on catering for a religiously diverse clientele’ – which offer points for those catering for or managing the catering of people of different faiths and set out good practice points on provision and procurement.



Venerable Bogoda Seelawimala and Yann Lovelock

- Part 2 ‘Some more detailed points about particular issues’ – which goes into more depth about some of the more complex aspects of the dietary practices of different religions including the separate storage and preparation of different types of food and the changes that can occur in faith based diet during religious festivals.
- A chart which contains information on faith based dietary practices – which is intended to give caterers a reasonably comprehensive idea of what certain religious groups are, or are not, likely to consume but is not intended to be an exhaustive list of the dietary requirements of different faiths.

A pdf of the document can be downloaded from www.interfaith.org.uk/publications/Catering-and-Faith-Based-Dietary-Practice.pdf

The guidance was circulated to IFN’s member bodies in March and to the Department for Communities and Local Government which supports the Government’s inter departmental group on religious issues. The Department brought it to the attention of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Food Standards Agency which have contact with many catering and professional bodies. The Equality and Human Rights Network circulated the guidance to its ‘Religion and Belief Network’.

Working to counteract hatred and violence

On 22 May a shocking murder took place in Woolwich, South East London, where an off duty soldier was hacked to death by two men.

IFN’s Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs issued the following statement about this:

“We learned with deep shock and great sadness of the murder of a young member of the armed forces in Woolwich yesterday afternoon. Such acts of violence and terror have no place in our society.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the victim’s family.

The attackers linked their actions with the religion of Islam. Statements from major national Muslim bodies have, in the ensuing hours, condemned the act in the strongest terms and stressed its lack of connection to – and complete contradiction of – teachings of Islam. Even so, there have been attacks on two mosques over the course of the last 24 hours and concerns expressed about the possibility of further attack.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with any whose places of worship or personal safety are affected.

In the wake of this terrible attack, all who share a commitment to a peaceful, safe and just society have a vital role to play in strengthening community bonds and working for greater understanding and mutual support at times of difficulty.”

This message of solidarity was reflected in many statements, vigils and cross-community events and visits across the following weeks – both in response to the original attack and in relation to a number of subsequent attacks on Muslim properties.

A special session at IFN’s National Meeting on 1 July in Birmingham focused on ‘inter faith engagement and solidarity’ in the face of hatred and violence which is motivated by, or claims a link to, religious identity.

The first speaker was Pastor Mike Leader of Greenwich Faith Leaders, the Ecumenical Borough Deans, Greenwich Peninsula Multifaith Chaplaincy and Charlton & Blackheath Christian Fellowship. He was at the heart of the response by faith leaders of different traditions in the London Borough of Greenwich where Drummer Lee Rigby died and shared his reflections on the process and its effects.

The next speaker was Fiyaz Mughal of Faith Matters and of Muslims against Anti-Semitism. He offered his reflections on the situation following the Woolwich attack and subsequent incidents and attacks reported by the Muslim community and on the significance of cross-faith responses to violence and hatred; and also commented on the importance of ensuring safety for all communities.

The final speaker on this topic was Neelam Aggarwal-Singh of Northampton Inter-Faith Forum and Northampton Hindu community. She spoke about the importance of multi-faith support and solidarity from local groups and how local inter faith groups had brought people together to respond, through issuing statements, holding vigils and meetings.

“... the Network ... has made it possible for inter-religious dialogue and interfaith relations and activities thereby discouraging religious bigotry which is the bane of our society.”

25 COUNCIL OF AFRICAN AND AFRO-CARIBBEAN CHURCHES (UK)

Reflections from presenters

“... the day after the Woolwich attack, we had a Faith Leaders’ meeting with briefing. This communication was very important in tackling rumours and helping prevent the problems which come from the rumours that often cause all sorts of unrest in the community...”

“... I think that over this period there have not been any major problems in Greenwich. I do not think, as far as I know, that there have been any incidents relating to the mosque, although there was a rise in hate crime. I guess you almost expect that. The police reported that whereas in the period of a couple of weeks they would normally have had maybe five reports of hate crime, during this period they had twenty two so there was a rise in hate crime. But generally I think we have seen that the levels of tension have been held down and this is in no small measure due to the fact that the Faith Leaders and the Council worked together, talked to each other, and keep each other informed. That was the way that it worked and I think that at the end of the day we were quite proud of the way that Greenwich rose to this occasion.”

PASTOR MIKE LEADER



Pastor Mike Leader

“NIFF works collectively as seven faith groups towards better harmony, better understanding of each other through different events and activities. We believe this is very important for the future ...

“... we have developed a strong, on-going pattern of working together. This was reflected in our response to the Woolwich attack. We responded with a press release to condemn the Woolwich attack, the murder of Lee Rigby, and then issued a release which following attacks on the Muslim community.”

NEELAM AGGARWAL-SINGH MBE



Neelam Aggarwal Singh



Fiyaz Mughal

“... the heinous murder [in Woolwich] of a young man ... has brought to the forefront the issue of far right activism ... and back again to the surface the issue of young people potentially being radicalised but also, in this case, clearly having been radicalised both at a national and on an international level, with one of the individuals having been detained in Kenya about two years before this murderous incident. Woolwich ... brought to the forefront how communities could try to work with each other and try to overcome some of the tensions. ... It also brought out the voices of those that said they needed help and assistance in trying to work through some of the tensions in their areas.

“... I firmly believe that if work on inter faith had not taken place over the last decades, we would be in a significantly different place right now. People sometimes say inter faith is just about ‘tea and samosas’; that it is fluffy. I say, ‘Think about Woolwich’ because if it was not for the Inter Faith Network and inter faith movements and you as practitioners the situation and the backlash would have been significantly worse. Inter faith has acted and shown itself post Woolwich to act as a significant glue ... between faith communities. We must not underestimate the importance of that over the last five weeks’ tensions. Local authorities are looking to faith communities to make a contribution ... I see this as a fundamental opportunity to be able to promote, engage and ensure that inter faith is targeted at the younger generation – the more socially media inclined generation – and also to develop a new set of inter faith activists across our country.”

FIYAZ MUGHAL OBE

In subsequent discussion, a number of issues were raised including the handling of extremism (in this case ‘far right Islamic extremism’), including by IFN itself.

The UK is, of course, affected also by events in other parts of the world. The shooting at a Sikh Temple in Oak Creek Wisconsin on 5 August 2012 that left six worshippers dead prompted inter faith response across the US, including vigils to remember the victims of the massacre and to urge greater religious tolerance, and call for gun control. In the UK a number of faith communities and leaders released statements of support and condolence to the Sikh community in Oak Creek and globally. The atrocity appeared, like the actions in Norway the previous summer of Anders Behring Breivik, to have links with ultra extremist views as well as demonstrating profound misunderstanding of the beliefs and practices of a community.

While IFN’s work focuses on the UK and formal statements are rarely issued on overseas events, the Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs of IFN expressed in a Circular to member bodies their concern about the underlying issues of extremism and prejudice which, sadly, cross all national boundaries and their sympathy to the Sikh community. The incident, like the murders in Toulouse in 2011 – and others in different countries – are, together with examples from time to time of prejudice, hatred and even violence in our own country, a reminder of the need to work tirelessly for greater understanding about and between different faiths.

“... Your work has made a real difference: it has provided a forum for dialogue, a platform for discussion, and a community in which mutual respect and recognition of all faiths is placed at the very heart of our nation.”

25 RABBI LORD SACKS OF ALDGATE, AT THAT TIME CHIEF RABBI OF THE UNITED HEBREW CONGREGATIONS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND THE COMMONWEALTH

“Interfaith is now well established not just at the organisational level but also at the grassroots. As IFN-UK celebrates 25 years of its existence, we send our felicitations and assure it of our continued support.”

25 VISHWA HINDU PARISHAD (UK)

“The Inter Faith Network has progressed beyond the dream of the founders and established itself as one of the leading interfaith organisations in the world.”

25 JAIN SAMAJ EUROPE

“We wish to thank [IFN] for the work they have been doing to bring together our networks and our different faiths. This furthering of awareness and understanding is so necessary to ensure a healthy future for faith in the UK. We look forward to forthcoming projects and events that will encourage even more interaction and co-operation.”

25 NETWORK OF BUDDHIST ORGANISATIONS

“We congratulate the Inter Faith Network for the UK on its 25th Anniversary. Its work to increase awareness about faith communities in Britain and good inter faith relations is of enormous importance. We especially commend the practical dimension of this in the form of such documents as Catering and Faith-Based Dietary Practice and were pleased to have played a role in the development of this key IFN resource. Cooperation on issues where there is shared concern – education, health, community relations among others – is increasingly important. We extend our good wishes for IFN’s work in the future and look forward to continuing to play an active and committed part in this for the good of wider society.”

25 THE MUSLIM COUNCIL OF BRITAIN

THE UK AND THE WIDER WORLD

A number of IFN's member bodies, such as UK branches of international inter faith organisations, have a particular focus on inter faith activity and cross-faith work globally. While the focus of IFN's own work is the UK, its work – and inter faith work in the UK more generally – is increasingly of interest to practitioners in other countries who contact it as part of sharing and exploring good practice around the world. The year saw enquires from within Europe as well as from other countries such as Azerbaijan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Iran.

There was a particular focus in the course of the year on religion and belief networking in Europe, with engagement with a newly developing European Network on Religion and Belief; and participation in a Graz conference in July with the aim of making a contribution to the peaceful coexistence of the different faith communities in Europe.

The Graz Conference included discussion of initiatives taking place in cities in the different states such as inter faith and intercultural projects designed to increase inter faith understanding. Inter Faith Week was of interest to participants from elsewhere who also shared examples of some of their projects such as Berlin's 'lange nacht der religionen' – a series of 'long nights' during the summer when the public can visit hundreds of places of worship of different faiths around Berlin – the equivalent to 'open door days' held in the UK, such as the multi faith Diverse Doors Open Day held each year in Bristol by the Bristol Multi Faith Forum.

“People of different faiths are in closer contact than ever before, through immigration in a physical sense, and through globalisation in a virtual community, where nobody is left unaffected by global events. Religious literacy, and the need for an appreciation of difference that goes beyond tolerance, has rightly moved to the forefront of public agendas. The bishops of England and Wales are delighted to be able to contribute to this, motivated by their own faith in Jesus Christ ... in cooperation with so many people and organisations of good will, including the Inter Faith Network. On its 25th anniversary, I would like to offer my congratulations to the Inter Faith Network, and assure you of my prayer for your work.”

25 FR MARCUS STOCK,
CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE
OF ENGLAND AND WALES



LOOKING FORWARD TO 2013–14

In the coming year, the Inter Faith Network will be structuring its work around its current strategic priorities, which are to:

- raise awareness about the importance of inter faith engagement, cooperation and dialogue and empower people of all ages to take forward inter faith work and to gain understanding and skills in this area;
- maximise opportunities for inter faith interaction and dialogue at every level within the UK;
- increase faith communities' engagement in public square discussion about issues such as citizenship and strengthen links with civil society;
- remain clearly focused on inter faith relations in the UK but enable sharing of good practice between the UK and other countries, particularly those in the EU and the Commonwealth (of both of which the UK is a part) on inter faith issues;
- consolidate and demarcate IFN's unique UK linking role and its role as 'voice' and 'advocate' on inter faith issues; and
- give IFN a secure operational basis.

IFN's core work of linking faith and inter faith bodies and sharing good practice as part of developing good inter faith relations and cooperation in the UK will continue.

A key task will be to secure sufficient financial resources to continue the work of IFN. In the context of a very challenging financial position, plans for the coming year must necessarily be seen as aspirational and are, clearly, subject to available resources.

However, current plans for 2013–14 include: implementation of agreed Strategic Review recommendations; further development of Inter Faith Week; continued support for, and development of, resources for local inter faith work; boosting of multi-media resources for those working to build good inter faith relations, with a website re-launch; a programme of work to develop integrated resources and on-line advice and information, incorporating both IFN's general work and the Inter Faith Week programme, to help spread IFN's knowledge and expertise through a wide range of media; and early discussions about a possible programme of work to look at the engagement in inter faith activity and within inter faith organisations (including IFN) of non-religious belief groups.

IFN MEMBERSHIP

The 2013 AGM, held at Aston University in Birmingham on 1 July, noted the withdrawal from IFN membership of the following organisations, which had ceased to operate: the Coexistence Trust, Bradford District Faiths' Forum, the Faiths' Forum for the East Midlands and Newham Faith Sector Forum; and the withdrawal from membership of the Centre for Christianity and Interreligious Dialogue at Heythrop College, because its budget no longer had resources to affiliate to outside organisations, and of Hull and East Riding Interfaith. The AGM further noted that the East of England Faiths Council was due to close later in 2013 and that its membership would therefore terminate in September.

The AGM noted that the following six local inter faith groups were deemed to have withdrawn from membership as at July 2012 in accordance with Article 11 of IFN's Articles of Association and had been notified of this: Blackburn with Darwen Interfaith forum, Greenwich Multi-Faith Forum, Middlesbrough Council of Faiths, Reading Inter-Faith Group, Rossendale Faith Partnership and Whalley Range (Manchester) Inter Faith Group.

No membership applications were brought to the AGM. This was because, in January, the Executive Committee decided to extend the period of consideration it would give to all membership applications received prior to the outcomes of the Strategic Review being agreed by IFN's member bodies. The note to member bodies and on its website explained that:

The Strategic Review, agreed by member bodies at the 2012 AGM, is now proceeding and to a tight timetable. Priority is necessarily being given to this in the deployment of IFN's staff and other resources.

The Executive Committee has discussed how best, during the Review period, to carry out its role of giving consideration to applications for membership and making recommendations on these to member bodies in general meeting. This relates particularly to applications submitted to the IFN office in the period between last July's AGM and the time when any outcomes of the Strategic Review in respect of membership policy have been agreed.

Under IFN's Articles of Association, applications for IFN membership are considered by the Committee and member bodies on the basis of the membership criteria in place at that time for different categories of membership. This means that currently any applications received would need to be considered in the

light of IFN's existing membership policy and criteria, (as set out on IFN's website in the section on membership). However, IFN's membership policy may change as a result of the Strategic Review, as membership is a key area being looked at by the Review Group.

The Committee has concluded that it would be most sensible for it to consider applications substantively, and for member bodies to reach their collective decisions on them, once the future position in terms of membership policy is known. Any new membership policy established as a result of the Review will, of course, have been drawn up after consultation with member bodies and with their agreement at a general meeting.

Against this background, the Executive Committee will be extending the period of consideration it gives to all membership applications received prior to the outcomes of the Strategic Review being agreed by IFN's member bodies. Applications will be noted in a brief initial review. The Committee will then return at a later point to consideration of its advice to member bodies on them when it can do so on the basis of any new membership policy and criteria.

A general meeting of member bodies to take decisions on membership applications will take place promptly once the Review process and the implementation of relevant outcomes on membership has been completed. The situation will, therefore, not be significantly different from the normal procedure under which membership applications are only considered annually by the AGM, as, on this basis, it is anticipated that the consideration of membership applications by member bodies will only be delayed for some months.

Trustees

At the 2013 AGM, the Revd Bob Fyffe was re-elected as a Co-Chair for the coming year and Mr Vivian Wineman was elected as Co-Chair.

Mr Mohinder Singh Chana was re-elected as a Vice-Chair for the coming year. Maulana Shahid Raza was elected as Vice-Chair from the Muslim community in succession to Dr Manazir Ahsan; Dr Jagdish Sharma was elected as Vice-Chair from the Hindu community in succession to Dr Girdari Lal Bhan; and Dr Kishan Manocha of the Baha'i community was elected as Vice-Chair in succession to Mr Dorab Mistry of the Zoroastrian community (in pursuance of the relevant guideline for a Vice-Chair appointment to be drawn in rotation from the smaller communities represented within the Network).

Mr Dorab Mistry was elected as Honorary Treasurer in succession to Mr Ramesh Shah.

Dr Girdari Lal Bhan, Ms Jyoti Mehta, Rabbi Alan Plancey, Mr Ramesh Shah and Mrs Bharti Tailor stood down at the AGM and were thanked for their service to the Committee.

A special presentation was also made to Dr Manazir Ahsan to thank him for his service to IFN for the past ten years as an Officer. Special presentations were also made to Dr Girdari Lal Bhan for his service as an Officer and to Mr Ramesh Shah, who had served as IFN's Honorary Treasurer for 23 years.

Mrs Varsha Dodhia, Rabbi Moshe Freedman, Mr Derek McAuley, Mr Ramesh Pattni and Mr Nitin Palan were elected to serve on the Committee for the coming year.

Trustees for 2013-14

Co-Chairs

The Revd Bob Fyffe
Mr Vivian Wineman

Vice-Chairs

Mr Mohinder Singh Chana
Dr Kishan Manocha
Maulana M Shahid Raza OBE
Dr Jagdish Sharma

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Dorab Mistry OBE
Mrs Neelam Aggarwal-Singh MBE
Ms Sughra Ahmed
Dr Manazir Ahsan MBE
The Revd Alan Bayes
Mr Alistair Beattie
The Revd Peter Colwell
Mrs Varsha Dodhia
Acharya Modgala Duguid
Rabbi Dr Moshe Freedman
The Revd David Gifford
The Revd Dr Toby Howarth
Mr John Keast OBE
Mr Ayub Laher
Mr Shabbir Lakha
Mr Derek McAuley
Rabbi Maurice Michaels
Ms Katharina Smith-Müller
Mrs Ravinder Kaur Nijjar
The Revd Daniel Otieno-Ndale
Mr Nitin Palan
Mr Ramesh Pattni
Dr Norman Richardson MBE
Mr Resham Singh Sandhu MBE
Venerable Bogoda Seelawimala
Dr Natubhai Shah MBE
Lord Singh of Wimbledon CBE
Sister Isabel Smyth OBE
Bessie White





The Revd Bob Fyffe making a presentation to Dr Girdari Bhan



Dorab Mistry and Vivian Wineman

During the past twenty five years, IFN has pursued its objectives and has confirmed its value and its importance in United Kingdom to the faith communities, especially the minority faith based organisations and to the government of the day ... The United Kingdom today is a multicultural, multi-ethnic and multi faith nation. IFN is crucial in these times ... HCUK takes this opportunity to offer our full support in all the endeavours of IFN in creating understanding, good relations, community cohesion and British identity amongst all faith communities in UK.

25 HINDU COUNCIL UK



Dr Harriet Crabtree, Director

Staff

Dr Harriet Crabtree OBE, Director

Mr Paresh Solanki, Assistant Director (Communications and Development) and, from February 2013, Executive Officer p/t

Miss Hannah Mercer, PA/Administrator p/t

Mr Ziya Adilov Bookkeeper / Administrative Assistant

Mr Ashley Beck, Project Officer

Augustine Booth-Clibborn, Project Officer

Miss Salina Hoang, Clerical Assistant (p/t September to July)

In early 2013 Paresh Solanki moved to a part-time role of Executive Officer and to work part-time as Development Director for the Hindu Christian Forum.

Brian Pearce, IFN's former Director, offered some voluntary assistance on an ad hoc basis in the course of the year and this is noted with appreciation.

Note: Shortly after the time at which this Review ends, Augustine Booth-Clibborn and Paresh Solanki moved on to new roles. The Inter Faith Network thanks them for their committed and significant contribution to its work.

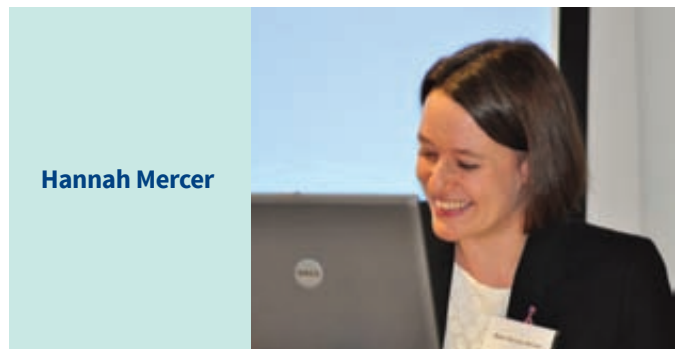
Part-time Clerical Assisant Salina Hoang also moved on at the end of the summer following completion of her studies, to a full time job and her work across the previous two years is likewise gratefully acknowledged.



Paresh Solanki



Augustine Booth-Clibborn with Celia Blackden of CTE



Hannah Mercer

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 December 2012

	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2011</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
			<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Incoming Resources				
Incoming Resources from generated funds				
Voluntary Income	15,568	339,558	355,126	431,534
Investment Income	–	1,815	1,815	1,307
Incoming resources from charitable activities	<u>–</u>	<u>9,699</u>	<u>9,699</u>	<u>9,248</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>15,568</u>	<u>351,072</u>	<u>366,640</u>	<u>442,089</u>
Resources expended				
Cost of Generating Voluntary Income	778	20,395	21,173	18,780
Charitable Activities				
Consultation, Information and Advice	4,826	128,066	132,892	132,345
Meetings and Conferences	5,225	88,596	93,821	127,360
Publications	1,089	27,334	28,423	40,982
Research	1,401	37,512	38,913	39,506
Governance Costs	<u>4,049</u>	<u>113,919</u>	<u>117,968</u>	<u>63,041</u>
Total resources expended	<u>17,368</u>	<u>415,822</u>	<u>433,190</u>	<u>422,014</u>
Net outgoing resources				
being net loss for the year	(1,800)	(64,750)	(66,550)	20,075
Funds brought forward	<u>1,800</u>	<u>149,077</u>	<u>150,877</u>	<u>130,802</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>–</u>	<u>84,327</u>	<u>84,327</u>	<u>150,877</u>

All the charitable company's operations are classed as continuing. All the charitable company's recognised gains and losses are shown above. The movement on reserves is shown above.

Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2012

	2012		2011	
	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets		9,715		10,801
Current Assets				
Debtors and prepayments	22,099		13,421	
Cash at bank	140,299		227,396	
	<u>162,398</u>		<u>240,817</u>	
Creditors: amounts due within one year	87,786		100,741	
Net Current Assets		<u>74,612</u>		<u>140,076</u>
Net Assets		<u>84,327</u>		<u>150,877</u>
Funds				
Restricted Funds		–		1,800
Unrestricted Funds		84,327		149,077
Total Funds		<u>84,327</u>		<u>150,877</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to Small Companies. They were approved by the Executive Committee on 30 May 2013 and signed on their behalf by Mr Ramesh Shah, Treasurer.

Note: The full Statutory Accounts and Trustees Report for 2012 can be accessed on the Charity Commission website.

SUPPORTERS IN 2012

The Inter Faith Network's programme of building good relations between the different faith communities in the UK is funded through support from faith communities, Government, trusts and individuals supportive of its work, as well as through the subscription fees of its member bodies.

The Trustees of the Network thank most warmly all those who have given financial support during the calendar year 2012 and also those who have given the gifts of time and skills.

Trusts, Foundations and Companies

M E Pearce Trust
Michael and Anna Wix Charitable Trust
Westminster Foundation

Government Funding

During 2012 the Network received strategic funding support from the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Faith Community Organisations

Archbishops' Council of the Church of England
Baha'i Community of the UK
BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha
Board of Deputies of British Jews
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales
Hindu Forum of Britain
Jain Network
Islamic Welfare Trust
Methodist Church in Britain
Religious Society of Friends
Salvation Army
Scottish Episcopal Church
Sri Lankan Sangha Sabha of GB
United Reformed Church
Vishwa Hindu Parishad (UK)
World Ahlul-Bayt Islamic League
Yorkshire Jain Foundation
Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe

Other Donors

Miss Saadatu Balde
Mrs Elizabeth Crabtree
Mr John Dodwell
Mr J A Ewan
Mr William Hopkinson
Dr Dermot Killingley
Dr Grahame Miles
Mrs Jenny Nicholson
Miss Rita Nunan
Mr Aubrey Rose
Ms Clare Salters
Mr Rashid Siddiqui
Mr David Stevens
Rev Richard Tetlow
Mrs Kathleen Wills
The Revd Canon Michael Wolfe

And thank you, too, to those who have given but prefer to remain anonymous ...

Help support work to build good inter faith relations

The Inter Faith Network for the UK is a registered charity. Its work is funded through support from faith communities, trusts, government and individual donors who can see the significance of its work to promote good inter faith relations in this country.

Donations at all levels are much appreciated and are used carefully and with maximum impact.

If you would like to make a donation to support the work of IFN to develop good inter faith relations in the UK, you can do this by sending a cheque, payable to 'The Inter Faith Network for the UK', to: 2 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH. Alternatively, you can donate online at www.interfaith.org.uk.

Thank you.

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS OF THE INTER FAITH NETWORK FOR THE UK

Faith Community Representative Bodies

Baha'i Community of the UK
 BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha
 Board of Deputies of British Jews
 British Muslim Forum
 Buddhist Society
 Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales
 Churches' Agency for Inter Faith Relations in Scotland
 Churches Together in Britain and Ireland
 Churches Together in England
 Council of African and Afro-Caribbean Churches (UK)
 General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches
 Hindu Council (UK)
 Hindu Forum of Britain
 Islamic Cultural Centre
 Jain Network
 Jain Samaj Europe
 Jamiat-e-Ulama Britain (Association of Muslim Scholars)
 Methodist Church in Britain
 Mosques and Imams National Advisory Board
 Muslim Council of Britain
 National Council of Hindu Temples (UK)
 Network of Buddhist Organisations (UK)
 Network of Sikh Organisations (UK)
 Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations
 Sri Lankan Sangha Sabha of GB
 Vishwa Hindu Parishad (UK)
 World Ahlul-Bayt Islamic League
 World Islamic Mission (UK)
 Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe

Educational and Academic Bodies

Cambridge Inter-Faith Programme
 Community Religions Project, University of Leeds
 Institute of Jainology
 Islamic Foundation
 National Association of SACRES
 Religious Education Council of England and Wales
 Shap Working Party on World Religions in Education
 Sion Centre for Dialogue and Encounter
 Wales Association of SACRES
 Woolf Institute

Inter Faith Organisations

Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum
 Interfaith Scotland
 Inter-faith Council for Wales/Cyngor Cyd-Ffydd Cymru
 East of England Faiths Council
 Faithnetsouthwest
 Faiths Forum for London
 North East Regional Faiths Network
 Northwest Forum of Faiths
 South East England Faith Forum
 West Midlands Faiths Forum

Children of Abraham (Imams and Rabbis Council of the United Kingdom)
 Christian Muslim Forum
 Christians Aware Interfaith Programme
 Coexist Foundation
 Council of Christians and Jews
 Council of Dharmic Faiths
 East of England Faiths Agency
 Hindu Christian Forum
 Interfaith Action (Interact)
 Interfaith Alliance UK
 International Association for Religious Freedom (British Chapter)
 International Interfaith Centre
 Joseph Interfaith Foundation
 Lokahi Foundation
 London Society of Jews and Christians
 Maimonides Foundation
 Minorities of Europe Inter Faith Action Programme
 Multi-Faith Centre at the University of Derby
 Religions for Peace (UK)
 Scriptural Reasoning
 Society for Dialogue and Action
 St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace
 St Philip's Centre for Study and Engagement in a Multi Faith Society
 Three Faiths Forum
 Tony Blair Faith Foundation
 United Religions Initiative (UK)
 Westminster Interfaith
 Women's Interfaith Network
 World Congress of Faiths

Local Inter Faith Groups

Altrincham Inter Faith Group
 Learning Together, Living in Harmony (Aylesbury)
 Barking and Dagenham Faith Forum
 Barnet Multi-Faith Forum
 Bedford Council of Faiths
 Birmingham Council of Faiths
 Blackpool Faith Forum
 Bolton Interfaith Council
 Bradford Concord Interfaith Society
 Brent Interfaith
 Brent Multi-Faith Forum
 Brighton and Hove Inter-Faith Contact Group
 Bristol Inter Faith Group
 Bristol Multi-Faith Forum
 Building Bridges in Burnley
 Muslim-Christian Forum (Bury)
 Calderdale Interfaith Council
 Cambridge Inter-Faith Group
 Camden Faith Communities Partnership
 Canterbury and District Inter Faith Action
 Cardiff Interfaith Association
 Cheltenham Inter Faith
 Cleveland and Tees Valley Inter Faith Group
 Coventry Multi-Faith Forum
 Crawley Interfaith Network
 Faiths Together in Croydon
 Cumbria Interfaith Forum
 Forum of Faiths for Derby
 Devon Faith and Belief Forum
 Doncaster Interfaith
 Dudley Borough Interfaith Network
 Eastbourne Faiths Forum
 Elmbridge Multi-Faith Forum
 Exeter Faith and Belief Group
 Gateshead Inter Faith Forum
 Hampshire Interfaith Network
 Harrow Inter Faith Council
 Hastings and District Interfaith Forum
 Hillingdon Inter Faith Network
 Horsham Interfaith Forum
 Hounslow Friends of Faith
 Huddersfield Inter Faith Council
 Inter Faith Isle of Man
 Inter-faith North/West (Northern Ireland)
 Islington Faiths Forum
 Keighley Interfaith Group
 Kingston Inter Faith Forum
 Kirklees Faiths Forum
 Faiths Together in Lambeth
 Lancashire Forum of Faiths
 Faith in Lancaster
 Leeds Concord Interfaith Fellowship
 Leeds Faiths Forum
 Leicester Council of Faiths
 Interfaith Forum for Leicestershire
 Liverpool Faith Network
 Loughborough Council of Faiths
 Luton Council of Faiths
 Faith Network for Manchester
 Medway Inter Faith Action Forum
 Merseyside Council of Faiths
 Interfaith MK (Milton Keynes)
 Milton Keynes Council of Faiths
 Moseley Inter Faith Group
 Newcastle Council of Faiths
 Newham Association of Faiths
 North Herts Faith Forum
 North Kirklees Inter-Faith Council
 North Staffordshire Forum of Faiths
 Northampton Inter Faith Forum
 Norwich InterFaith Link
 Nottingham Inter Faith Council
 Oldham Inter Faith Forum
 Oxford Round Table of Religions
 Building Bridges Pendle – Interfaith Community Project
 Peterborough Inter-Faith Council
 Plymouth Centre for Faiths and Cultural Diversity
 Portsmouth Inter Faith Forum
 Preston Faith Forum
 Redbridge Faith Forum
 Rochdale Multi Faith Partnership
 Rugby Inter Faith Forum
 Sandwell Multi-Faith Network
 Sheffield Inter Faith
 South London Inter Faith Group
 South Shropshire Interfaith Forum

Southampton Council of Faiths
Southwark Multi Faith Forum
Stafford and District Friends of Faith
Suffolk Inter-Faith Resource
Faiths United (Tameside)
Telford and Wrekin Interfaith Group
Torbay Interfaith Forum
Tower Hamlets Inter Faith Forum
Valleys Faith Forum
Waltham Forest Faith Communities Forum
Wandsworth Multi-Faith Network
Warrington Council of Faiths
Warwick District Faiths Forum
Watford Inter Faith Association
Wellingborough Inter Faith Group
Welwyn Hatfield Interfaith Group
Westminster Faith Exchange
Windsor and Maidenhead Community Forum
Wisbech Interfaith Forum
Wolverhampton Inter Faith and Regeneration Network
Worcestershire Inter-Faith Forum
Wycombe Sharing of Faiths
York Interfaith Group

Note: List of member bodies following July 2013 AGM.

NOTES

NOTES



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RESPECTED EDUCATION DIALOGUE
INTEGRITY COMMUNITY VALUES
COOPERATION DISTINCTIVENESS
COMMON GOOD UNDERSTANDING
NEIGHBOURLINESS FAITH ACTION
BELONGING TACKLING PREJUDICE
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COOPERATION DISTINCTIVENESS